

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/674,580	ROSS ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Tony Mahmoudi	2165	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After-Final Amendment filed on 07-August-2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21 and 27-30, re-numbered as claims 1-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Remarks***

1. In response to the After-Final Amendment filed on 07-August-2007, claims 22-26 are canceled per Applicant's request. Therefore, claims 1-21 and 27-30 are presently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 17 and 21 are presented in independent form.

### ***Allowance***

2. Claims 1-21 and 27-30 are allowed over the prior art made of record.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant has canceled the remaining rejected claims (22-26). All other claims pending in the Application were indicated as "allowed" in the previous Office Action.

Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer, filed on 11-december-2006 (approved by the Office on 26-December-2006), overcomes the previously cited Double Patenting rejection on the claims of the instant Application.

The prior art of record, do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

one or more data crystals storing one or more data records in an obfuscated format;

one or more iterators, each iterator programmed to access, deobfuscate, and return at least one of the one or more data records in response to a data request;

a key crystal granting access rights for the database system whereby the one or more data crystals, one or more iterators, one or more queries, and key crystal regulate access to the one or more data records, as recited in independent claim 1.

The prior art of record, do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

a plurality of data crystals, each data crystal containing at least one data record employing an obfuscation technique;

an iterator programmed to access the at least one data record according to the obfuscation technique;

a key crystal granting access rights for the database system whereby the plurality of data crystals, iterator, at least one queries, and key crystal control access to the at least one data records, as recited in independent claim 17.

The prior art of record, do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim):

Art Unit: 2165

obtaining a data record and storing the data record in a data crystal in an obfuscated format;

providing an iterator to access and deobfuscate the obfuscated data record;

providing a key crystal authorizing use of the data crystal and the query according to the preauthorized type of data requirement, whereby the data crystal, iterator, query, and key crystal prevent unauthorized access to the data record, as recited in independent claim 21.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Mahmoudi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 08:00 am to 04:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin, can be reached at (571) 272-4146.

August 10, 2007

/Tony Mahmoudi/

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